

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph on page 1, between the title of the invention and the Background of the Invention, as follows:

This is a divisional application of Serial No. 09/807,841, filed June 29, 2001, which is the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/N099/00293, filed September 21, 1999, now Patent No. 6,774,276.

Please amend the paragraph [0009] beginning on page 3, as follows:

[0009] There is a growing understanding in the oil and gas industry that hydrate particles in a flow situation are not necessarily a problem per se. If the particles do not deposit on walls or equipment, and do not have a large impact on flow characteristics (i.e. their concentration is not too large), they simply flow with the rest of the fluids, without creating a problem situation. The challenge will therefore be to achieve this situation in a controlled manner, and making sure that hydrate formation does not take place randomly throughout the flow system.

Please amend the paragraph [0011] beginning on page 4, as follows:

[0011] The present invention provides a method for transporting a flow of fluid hydrocarbons containing water through a treatment and transportation system including a pipeline. According to the invention the flow of fluid hydrocarbons is introduced into a reactor where it is mixed with particles of gas hydrates which are also introduced into the reactor, the effluent flow of hydrocarbons from the reactor is cooled in a heat exchanger to ensure that all water present therein is in the form of gas ~~hydrates~~ hydrates. The flow is then treated in a separator to be separated into a first flow and a second flow, said first flow having a content of gas hydrates is

recycled to the reactor to provide the particles of gas hydrates mentioned above, and the second flow is conveyed to a pipeline to be transported to its destination.

Please amend the paragraph [0012] beginning on page 4, as follows:

[0012] The flow of fluid hydrocarbons will normally come from a drilling hole well and will be relatively warm and will be under pressure. It is generally preferred to cool the flow of fluid hydrocarbons in a first heat exchanger before introducing ~~The~~ the flow into the above-mentioned reactor.